

THE DEPORTATIONS IN ASIA MINOR

1921-1922

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**Memorandum on Greek Deportations,
May, 1921—January, 1922, by Dr.
Mark H. Ward, Director, Near East
Relief American Hospital, Kharput.**

BEGINNING with May 26th, 1921, and up to January, 1922, there were a total of 20,378 deportees that reached Kharput. About 18,000 were Greek Ottomans and the remaining 2,000 were Armenians. They were from the following places, named in the order in which the deportees reached Kharput:—

Konia, Cesarea, Amasia, Bilijek, Eskishehir and villages near Brussa, Eregli, Afium Karahissar, Alishar, Kutahia, Sivri-Hissar, Akshehir Keroman, Haymans, Ordu, Kerasun, Samsun, Khanza, Topejuk, Marsivan, Koppy, Vozir-Kupru, Sparta, Burdur, Endernish.

According to the reports we received, there must have been 30,000 sent down the Kharput road from Sivas during this time. Some 5,000 of them were able to escape from the convoys while they were passing through the various villages and towns along the road. In Malatia alone, there were 4,000 refugees during the fall and winter months. From these the Near East Relief was taking care of over 600 children in an orphanage and feeding 400 refugees at a soup kitchen. There were another 1,000 whom the Americans could not reach or care for.

The remaining 2,000 who remained at Malatia all died either from starvation or typhus during the winter.

As the deportees were driven down the road, many dropped by the roadside from exhaustion, and during the winter nights these froze to death as they had no covering. One American saw 1,500 dead bodies along the side of the road as he journeyed from Sivas to Kharput during the month of December last. Another, going from Malatia to Kharput earlier in the same month, saw 150 bodies of women and children. Some of these bodies were on the

roadway itself, just where they had stumbled and fallen. Others appeared to have had just enough strength to crawl to the side of the road so they would not be crushed by passing wagons.

In all, fully 5,000 of the 30,000 who started from Sivas died on the road, so that, together with the 5,000 who escaped from the convoys, only 20,000 reached Kharput.

The Near East Relief was able after a hard struggle to give bread to most of the thirty-eight convoys of refugees as they passed on the road. Some 5,000 of them remained in Kharput and nearby villages, and 3,000 of these received the Near East Relief ration of bread regularly. During the cold winter months, however, many died from starvation and exposure. Typhus broke out and spread like wildfire in spite of quarantine. In Kharput during seven months over 1,300 refugees were received in our American hospital, and out of these, even with the best of care, 341 died, a death-rate of 25 per cent. In the largest isolation camp 600 died. In the entire Vilayet fully 2,000 died. Nothing was done for them except by the Americans.

Some 15,000 refugees were sent over the high mountains south to Diarbekir, but the Americans there reported that only 12,000 arrived. The remaining 3,000 perished in the snow on the mountains. Food and bread was given to them as they passed through Diarbekir. Two thousand remained there during the winter, and half of them died from starvation, disease or exposure.

Thus, out of the 30,000 who left Sivas, only 10,000 passed over the bridge of the Tigris river at Diarbekir into the Vilayet of Bitlis.

Beyond this point we know nothing—no word has ever come back. From the nature of the country and the barrenness of the mountains we know that very few can possibly have survived the winter.

Of the 30,000 refugees, there remain, so far as we know, about 6,000—2,000 thousand in Malatia, 3,000 in Kharput and 1,000 in Diarbekir.

The earlier convoys of refugees consisted of men, many of them in the prime of life. These were mostly put to work on the roads between Kharput and Diarbekir. They received no pay and their entire food allowance consisted of 200 grams of bread and a little thin soup daily. They were allowed no shelter and were compelled to sleep out of doors in bitter cold weather without bedding or covering.

When they were too ill to work, their food allowance was cut off and they were left to die without medical care. In some cases, by paying gold, a refugee was able to remain in one of the larger towns and work locally. Some were thus able to get in touch with friends and receive money through the agricultural bank.

But after the earlier deportations, the convoys consisted almost entirely of women and children, with a scattering of old men and boys. In some cases they were permitted to travel with their ox-carts or donkeys, but mostly they were forced to walk, and their baggage consisted of what they could carry on their backs. This was especially hard on women with children. The little children had to walk, for their mothers were obliged to carry the food and bedding for the journey on their backs. Therefore, it was the children who gave up first and fell behind, and later crawled to the side of the road to die. Many babies were born along the road, but as the mothers had to keep up, they did not survive. Even in the American hospital, out of 33 babies born from among the refugees, only 13 lived and half of those have no chance of growing up. Ten of the babies were born prematurely and, of course, died.

Some of the sick among the refugees we were permitted to take into the American Hospital, but only after they had personally been examined by the local health officer and given a permit to be admitted. Sometimes they would have to wait four days for a permit and sometimes they would have to pay a bribe to the official. We were not allowed to give the refugees any work, and it was only after difficult negotiations that we obtained permission to give out clothes to those who came to us with hardly rags enough to cover their nakedness.

This spring, as soon as the roads were passable over the mountains, new convoys began to pass through Kharput. These convoys were mostly made up of the survivors, who had managed to live through the winter in some of the towns along the road. They were being pushed on, we learned, in order to make room for new convoys who were to be started down from the North and condemned to exile in the mountains of Bitlis. The deportees all knew that they were being sent there to die. The Turkish officials all knew it. There was no possibility that many could find shelter or food among those high mountains.

(Signed) MARK H. WARD.

Extracts from the Diary of Dr. Mark H. Ward, Mezereh, Vilayet of Mamuret-ul-Aziz, Anatolia (showing total number of deportees observed May 26, 1921-February 23, 1922).

	1921.	No. of deportees.
May 26.—	Fifty men arrived in town under guard from Konia, Cesarea and Amasia; 34 were Turks, 10 Greeks, and six Armenians. One, Dickran Trachian, was from Constantinople. They had received some help at Sivas from the American Near East Relief.	
	LATER.—They are to be sent on to Bitlis. They were kept in prison here for two days and then sent on to Diarbekir	50
May 29.—	One hundred and forty men arrived from Bilijek to-day: 30 Armenians, 110 Greeks. The convoy consisted of 300 when they started, but many died on the way.	
	LATER.—They were distributed among the hans and shops of Mezereh on June 1, and the following day they began to be admitted to our hospital with typhus. They were in a terrible condition and many died.. .. .	140
June 3.—	Three hundred and twelve men from Eskishehir and Kutahia arrived to-day. On the way from Sivri-Hissar to Mamuret-ul-Aziz they have been eating grass, having no money to buy bread as they were robbed on the way. Twenty of them were admitted to our hospital with typhus or relapsing fever.	
	LATER.—This convoy was kept in quarantine 25 days. Native Christians were permitted to send food to them,	

but the Government did not issue any rations; 125 Greeks, 187 Armenians .. 312

June 13.—Five hundred and seventy-four men from Eskishehir, Bilijek, Sivri-Hissar, Kutahia, and Afium Karahissar came in to-day. Most of them penniless, as they have been robbed on the way; 200 Greeks, 374 Armenians.

LATER.—They were placed in quarantine for 35 days and then sent to the villages around Kharput. We were allowed to send bread to their camp while here .. 574

June 20.—Ten persons arrived to-day by yails from Konia, and were admitted to the American Hospital in order that we might delouse them. Refugees with typhus or danger of typhus are treated gingerly by the Turks, as they may spread the disease further among the Turkish population. This is a small group of high-quality people. In the group is a Greek priest, a wealthy Greek engineer, a wealthy merchant and his wife, and the well-known Professor Haigazian, President of the American College at Konia. Prof. Haigazian is a graduate of Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary, and has also received a Ph.D. from Yale. He speaks English perfectly. He appears weak and ill; we are doing all we can for him.

LATER.—On the 23rd the Government ordered us to send Prof. Haigazian to the quarantine camp. This was very bad for him, as the men there are very lousy, and he could hardly escape being infected.

On the 25th I saw him at the camp and he seemed very ill, but we were unable to get permission for him to enter the hospital.

On the 28th most of his party were sent away, but Prof. Haigazian, by paying

fifteen pounds gold, was permitted to remain. The following day we got him to our hospital. By that time the rash of typhus had appeared. We made a hard fight to save him, but he died on July 7. We were permitted to bury him ..

10

- June 27.—Three hundred and fifty men (50 Greeks, 300 Armenians) reached Mezereh to-day from Konia, having been on the way since May 30. They were deported because they were not natives of Konia. Among them were five of the N.E.R. workers from our hospital and orphanage there. One of these died in Malatia from typhus, while another was allowed to stay in Sivas with the Americans there.

LATER.—This group remained in quarantine about four weeks and was then distributed around Mezereh ..

350

- July 4.—Four hundred and fifty men (170 Greeks, 280 Armenians), who left Akshehir on June 4, came into Mezereh to-day.

LATER.—They were sent three weeks later to the villages of Palu ..

450

- July 17.—Six hundred and sixty men, natives of Konia city, many of them well-to-do merchants, have arrived (456 Greeks, 204 Armenians). They have been 40 days on the way. Among them is Michael Oglu Demetri (James M. Johnson) from Detroit, Mich.

LATER.—They seemed in good condition and after three days were sent to various towns in the Vilayet ..

660

- July 19.—Six hundred and two men (302 Greeks, 300 Armenians) from Afium Karahissar, Akshehir, Karaman, Eregli, Haymans, Kutahia, Eskishehir and the villages of Konia reached us to-day. Of these 370 were penniless and we are giving them bread daily.

LATER.—A month later they were distributed to the villages near here ..

602

July 18.—Seven hundred and twenty-two Greeks from Ordu and Kerasun came in on the Arabkir road to-day. One woman, who had gone out to say good-bye to her husband and thus was deported with him, was in this group.

LATER.—She was brought to the hospital, where she remained for over a week. She joined her husband when the group went on south towards Bitlis and Van. 384 of this group were without resources and we had to help them

722

July 25.—Four hundred and ninety-six Greeks, men from Ordu and Kerasun came in to-day.

LATER.—They were kept in quarantine for two weeks and then sent south.

We learn that several convoys from Samsun have been sent into Divrick area

496

July 28.—One hundred and sixty-one Greeks from Kerasun and Black Sea Coast arrived to-day.

LATER.—Ninety were very poor, so we gave them bread during the two weeks they were here

161

Aug. 4.—Sixty-four Greeks from the villages around Ordu got in to-day. Twenty-five of them had nothing, and we supplied them with bread while here.

LATER.—Two weeks later they were sent on towards Bitlis

64

Aug. 4.—Two thousand persons, mostly women and children, with a few old men, are coming outside the town to-night. They are from Zarra in the Vilayet of Sivas and are all Greeks. They are travelling with their ox-carts and their cattle, but are without bread. We sent out 1,778 rations of bread by automobile to them. Three hundred of them are very poor.

LATER.—They remained here four days and then were sent to different villages in this Vilayet. Many sold their

	No. of Deportees.
cattle and ox-carts at great sacrifice in order to get money to live	2,000
Aug. 21.—Twenty-two men from Kerasun and Ordu arrived to-day and were sent to the hospital to be cleaned.	
LATER.—A week later they were sent on	22
Aug. 27.—Eighty persons from the village of Tebejik, near Samsun, drifted in to-day. They had been robbed in their village, and also on the way.	
LATER.—Although these people were really starving, they remained one night only, and were forced on south.. ..	80
Aug. 27.—One thousand two hundred and thirty persons, mostly women and children, passed through Mezereh at night, having camped out on the road some five miles away the day before. They came from Amasia, Khanza, Iledig, Marsivan, Torpojuk and near-by villages of Samsun. They were nearly starved, and in a pitiable condition, having been made to travel very fast. I met them in a truck and brought fifty to the hospital. One woman died in the auto; two were left behind dead on the road. Some had ox-carts, but most of them carried their bedding on their backs. Many little children had to walk all the way. They were being exiled to Bitlis or Van ..	1,230
Aug. 30.—One thousand six hundred and fifty Greeks, women and children, with a few old men, passed through Mezereh during the night. They were crying in the streets as they passed through: "We are dying from thirst!" "Find us some water!" It was very hot all day and night. They were in terrible condition, so we sent 1,700 rations of bread out after them on the road. They were being exiled to Bitlis, having come from Marsivan and the villages between there and Samsun	1,650

- Aug. 31.—One thousand two hundred and eighty-four persons were in a convoy that passed through Mezereh at four o'clock in the morning without stopping. They were from Marsivan, Khanza, Amasia, Koppy, and Hadign. Two thousand five hundred and sixty-eight loaves of bread were sent after them on the road. They are going to Bitlis 1,284
- Sept. 9. —Two hundred persons, women and children and old men from Eskishehir and Kutahia, passed through Mezereh to-day. They have been four months on the way, and are in very poor circumstances .. 200
- Sept. 21.—Fifty-two men (48 Greeks, 4 Armenians) arrived here to-day from Konia, which they left August 1. They passed directly on south 52
- Sept. 24.—One hundred and sixty-nine Greeks from Samsun, Vezir Kupru, etc., came in this afternoon. As soon as they entered the town they spread out in the streets begging for bread and food, as they were in wretched condition. They were sent on to-night after we had issued some bread to them 169
- Sept. 26.—Three hundred and eighty-five men and women from Konia spent the night here and then went on south 385
- Sept. 28.—One hundred and twenty-five men from Konia, Karaman, Eregli, Nigdo and Cesarea passed through on their way to Bitlis 125
- Oct. 3.—To-day was Sunday. The police here went out and gathered about 250 of the deportees who had been permitted to stay in Mezereh from previous convoys. In the afternoon they were deported without their luggage. After they had gone about eight miles they secured permission to send some wagons back to bring their baggage from the city. When they received these bundles they were forced to pay seven Medjids (about four

- and a half paper liras) for each piece.
These men were collected and sent out by the Government to work on the road between Aghavni and Diarbekir.
- Oct. 4.—One hundred and sixty men from the Samsun region came in last evening and spent the night in the fields beyond the city. They were sent on towards Diarbekir 160
- Oct. 4.—One hundred and thirty-six men from the Konia district got in at five o'clock this morning and went on this afternoon .. 136
- Oct. 9.—Forty-three men coming from Ordu got in here at six o'clock this evening. They were in very bad condition, nearly half dead, and were sent to the quarantine camp 43
- This morning one of our bread boys, a Greek, came into Mezereh from a village near by, frightfully beaten and cut up. He had been attacked on the way and badly beaten by the Turks.
- Oct. 16.—Six hundred persons, who seemed very poor, arrived to-day and later started for Diarbekir 600
- Oct. 20.—To-day the Government Sanitary Inspector established a large quarantine camp outside the city and collected six hundred and eighty deportees from the streets here and sent them out to the camp. The Near East Relief received permission to send out bread, soap, wood, and clothing.
- Oct. 23.—Seventy-seven persons, mostly men, arrived and were taken to the police station. This evening they were sent on down the road towards Osmanie where they are to be put to work to repair the roads. 77
- Nov. 6.—Sixty-eight men from Konia remained the night here and left later for the south.
To-day also a group of deportees from Gumush Maden passed through the town, going to Osmanie to work on the road.

- These deportees were sent to Maden five or six months ago and are now returning. 68
- Nov. 10.—Seventeen hundred refugees, men, women and children, came into Mezereh on the Arabkir road. They were 2,000 when they left Arabkir, but in crossing the high mountains they encountered a snowstorm and three hundred of them perished in the snow. They were in terrible condition to-day, but were pushed on towards Bitlis 1,700
- Nov. 11.—One hundred and fifty-four men from Eregli and Karaman district came in to-day and were sent out to work on the roads to the south 154
- Nov. 15.—One thousand five hundred men, women and children passed through the town late this afternoon. They were not allowed to stop, but we were able to send some bread after them by automobile .. 1,500
- Nov. 18.—Eight hundred and fifty women and children came into town to-day, all from the villages in the Sivas Vilayet. They seemed very poor and needy, but we were only permitted to give them bread enough for two days.
- To-day another group of men, some thirty, passed through from Gumush Maden, where they had been sent for six months to work on the roads 850
- Nov. 19.—Three hundred and fifty women and children, collected from the refugees in Malatia, arrived to-day on their way to Bitlis 350
- Nov. 27.—A new group of those who were a little stronger than the rest, about 270 persons, was made up at the quarantine camp outside the town and deported this afternoon. It was a cold rainy Sunday. As we had not been notified ahead, it was impossible to issue them any bread for the journey. They must suffer terribly going over the high mountains in this weather.

	No. of Deportees.
Nov. 24.—Seven hundred women and children from Sivas and Ordu districts spent the night here on their way to Bitlis. We gave them four rations of bread each ..	700
Dec. 8.—Eighty men who had been working on the roads at Osmanie, but now were sick or worn out, came back to Mezereh to-day and were sent to the quarantine camp.	
Dec. 13.—Fourteen hundred deportees arrived to-day. They originally came from Ordu, Kerasun, Amasia, Sparta, Burdur and Endemish. But some had remained in Cesarea and Sivas for several months and now were being deported a second time to Bitlis. They were more than 2,500 when they left Cesarea, but many died on the way from starvation and cold. They were all robbed on the journey, so they were in terrible condition.	
LATER.—In spite of their condition they were sent on three days later in the midst of a heavy snowstorm ..	1,400
Dec. 15.—Six hundred Greeks from the Sivas district came in to-day. They were wretched and they reported that many in their convoy had died on the way. Three hundred Greeks from our quarantine camp were added to this convoy and they were all sent on. As there had been several snowstorms during the week and it was very cold, this convoy had to wait a few days at the foot of the mountains on the road to Diarbekir. The Turkish official in charge reported that 300 froze to death before they were able to push over the mountains. Later, one of this group who escaped and returned back to Mezereh told some gruesome stories of their experience. He also told of the wretched condition of the road workers. They were receiving only one ration of bread and a little soup each day from the Government, and if they	

became sick even this ration was cut off and they were left to die.

At our quarantine camp here in Mezereh conditions are very bad. The refugees are dying from typhus very rapidly, some 20 to 25 each day. ..

600

Dec. 30.—Last night 15 people died at our quarantine camp.

Dec. 31.—Three hundred men and women from the Konia region came in to-day. They were not in very bad condition, as they had rugs and jewellery to sell. They left on January 1 for Bitlis, but at the foot of the mountain it is reported they were robbed, and afterwards many died on the mountain roads from exposure

300

1922.

Jan. 2.—A group from our quarantine camp, 180 in all, was deported to-day in a heavy snowstorm. We were unable to give them any food for their journey.

Jan. 23.—Another group of about 100 persons was sent out to-day although the mountains are covered with snow and the roads impassable.

Feb. 15.—One hundred deportees from Malatia were sent on to Bitlis to-day over the mountains

100

Feb. 23.—Since our Refugee Camp was started four months ago, over 600 have died. In December they died at the rate of 20 a day. Now only one or two a day. We had up to 900 refugees there at one time. Now we have only 450.

In and around Kharput the Near East Relief is now feeding about 2,000 refugees. Many are scattered in the villages. We estimate that there are another 2,000 in the outlying regions of this Vilayet, making some 4,000 in all still alive in this area.

TOTAL 20,526

TURKISH ATROCITIES IN ASIA MINOR

MASSACRES OF 1915-1916.

SECRET ORDERS EXPOSED.

From a Diplomatic Correspondent.

If anyone is inclined to doubt the evidence tendered by the American Near East Relief workers as to the atrocities perpetrated by the Turks in Asia Minor since the Armistice of 1918, let him but read the following official Turkish telegrams relating to the deportations and massacres of the Armenians in 1915-16. These telegrams all emanated from the late Talaat Pasha, successively Minister of the Interior and Grand Vizier during that period, and addressed to the then Turkish Prefecture at Aleppo. I doubt whether in the annals of the world's history there exists a more hideous record of persecution and murder or a more damning proof of the sinister and pitiless mentality of the modern Young Turks, now masquerading under the Kemalist label. The spirit of Talaat still animates his former associates and subordinates, many of whom are to-day in power at Angora.

"ALL MUST BE CLEARED OUT."

Sept. 9, 1915.—The right of the Armenians to live and work on Turkish territory is totally abolished. The Government, which assumes full responsibility in the matter, has issued orders that not even the children are to be left in their cradles. Some provinces have already witnessed the carrying out of these orders. This being so, for reasons unknown to us, exceptions have been made in the case of certain individuals, who, instead of being sent to their place of exile, have been left at Aleppo. Thereby the Government has found itself confronted by a fresh difficulty. Without heeding their arguments, and whether they be women, children, or even persons incapable of moving, all, without distinction, must be cleared out of there, and the population must be allowed no pretext for taking up their defence. Owing to its ignorance, the population places its material interests before patriotic feelings, and is unable to appreciate the great policy pursued by the Government under this head. Seeing that the acts of suppression perpetrated elsewhere by indirect means, such as severity, a speeding up of the march on the way, road difficulties and other woes, can in this case be resorted to directly, you are to apply yourself instantly to this end, without losing a moment. The Ministry of War has informed the Army commands that the chiefs of military stations must not interfere with the movements of deportees. Notify the officials who will be in charge of this business that they need have no fear of responsibility, and must exert themselves in order to attain the real object. You will communicate to me weekly the results of your activities in cipher messages.

NO "PROMPTINGS OF CONSCIENCE."

Sept. 15, 1915.—As you have been previously informed, the Government, by the order of the Society (Committee of Union and Progress), has decided upon the complete extermination of all Armenians resident in Turkey. Those who would resist this order and decision could no

longer continue in the service of the Government. Without any regard to either women, children, or invalids, however tragic may be the means of extermination, and without listening to the promptings of conscience, an end must be put to their existence.

" TO THE DESERT."

Sept. 29, 1915.—We learn that men of the people, and even officials, are marrying Armenian women. This is strictly prohibited. I deem it of importance that women of this kind should be separated and sent to the desert.

" USUAL METHODS " TO BE HIDDEN.

Nov. 18, 1915.—It would appear, from the recent representations made to us by the American Embassy acting upon instructions from its Government, that American Consuls procure news by secret means. Our reply to them was that the deportations are being carried out in a safe and comfortable manner, but this assurance failed to convince them. Care should be taken that when the Armenians pass out of the towns, larger villages, and other centres, no incidents should take place of a nature to attract attention. From the standpoint of her present-day policy it is of supreme importance that foreigners moving in these areas should convince themselves that the sole object of the deportations is a change of residence. For this reason it is also important at the moment to display an attitude of delicacy, and only to resort to the usual methods in favourable spots. I request you in this connection to arrest the persons who either circulate news of this kind or who endeavour to make inquiries, and then to hand them over, under some other counts, to the courts-martial.

" TOLERATION UNPARDONABLE."

Dec. 1, 1915.—Although quite especial activity should be shown in the extermination of the people in question, we have learned that some of them are being sent to suspect spots like Jerusalem. Such toleration is an unpardonable offence. The only suitable place of exile for agitators of this type is the void. I should advise you to act accordingly.

DISPOSING OF CORPSES.

Dec. 29, 1915.—We learn that foreign officers are coming across the bodies of the people you know all along the roads and photographing them. I warn you it is of the utmost importance to see that such bodies are immediately interred and no longer left lying about the roads.

NO HALT IN EXILE.

Jan. 4, 1916.—I advise you in future and in a general way to send directly to their place of exile all Armenians arriving from the North, without allowing them to halt in any town or large village.

QUICK " RESULTS " DEMANDED.

Jan. 16, 1916.—It has come to our knowledge that from the vicinity of Intilli and Airan right away to Aleppo, there are to be found all along the roads some 40,000 to 50,000 Armenians, mostly women and children. All persons who cause gatherings of vagrants on points of such importance to the movements of troops should be punished most severely. Arrange, therefore, with the Adana Vilayet for the immediate return, on foot, to their proper place of exile, of these Armenians, and do not allow them to pass through Aleppo. I shall impatiently await communication of the results attained inside a week.

[It may be of interest to note that two successive Turkish Prefects

at Aleppo, Djelal Bey and Bekir Sami Bey, refused to obey such murderous instructions, and were consequently dismissed by Talaat.]

ORPHANS DOOMED TO DEATH.

All the following messages relate to the fate of the Armenian orphans :—

Jan. 15, 1915.—We learn that in the orphanages opened in certain localities they admit the children of a certain people. Inasmuch as the Government regards their existence as harmful, it would be acting against its wishes to feed and prolong the life of these children, or to take pity on them, whether because the real object to be aimed at was not grasped, or because it was condemned. I must warn you not to admit such children to the orphanages, nor to establish any special orphanages for their benefit.

Sept. 3, 1915.—You are advised to apply to both women and children the instructions previously applicable to the males of a certain people, and to appoint for this purpose reliable officials.

Sept. 21, 1915.—There is no need for such an orphanage. This is not the moment to waste time in feeding them and prolonging their life by giving way to sentiment. Send them back (i.e., to the desert), and advise us when this has been done.

Nov. 5, 1915.—We learn that the children of the people in question recently deported from the Vilayets of Sivas, Mamuret-ul-Aziz, Diarbekir, and Erzerum, having become orphans and without means of support owing to the death of their parents, are often adopted or taken in as servants by Moslem families. You are instructed to seek out all children living in these circumstances, and to send them to their place of exile. You should also enlighten the population on the subject by such means as you may hold to be suitable.

Dec. 12, 1915.—Receive and maintain only those orphans who cannot recall the terrors through which their parents passed. Send the rest away with the caravans.

March 7, 1916.—Under the pretext of having them cared for by the administration for deportees, and without arousing suspicions, seize and exterminate all those children of a certain people who have been picked up and looked after at the military stations by order of the Ministry of War. Keep us informed.

The manner in which these documents came into the hands of the Allies is of exceeding interest. When, in the autumn of 1918, the Turks recognised that their collapse and the early occupation of their country by the Allies were inevitable, they destroyed nearly all the compromising documents pertaining to that terrorist period. The example of Ministers in the capital was followed by high officials in the provinces. But here and there, owing to the lightning advance of Lord Allenby's forces, time was lacking for so complete an obliteration of the tragic archives, while subordinates who remained behind sometimes retained possession of compromising documents. An instance of the kind occurred at Aleppo, where a Turkish official employed in the local administration for deportees disclosed the series of telegrams, mostly in cipher, from which those published above are but a selection.

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